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U.S. Department of Agriculture

# Dahlias for

1948



It is Nationally Known
the BEST are
MICHIGAN GROWN

# Kerr Dahlia Gardens 392 North Washington BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

# ATTENTION!

# To Every Michigan Dahlia Grower

Long have the dahlia people of this state been humiliated and disappointed in NOT having a State Dahlia organization.

NOW we DO HAVE one; it is the

#### MICHIGAN DAHLIA ASSOCIATION

organized at East Lansing in the latter part of October, 1947. They are going to issue a bulletin at least twice a year which will be under the supervision of

#### Prof. C. E. Wildon

of the Michigan State College. We assure you this publication will be worth while and every member will be not only proud of this paper, but also the organization.

Be a charter member by sending in your dues, which is three dollars (\$3.00) per year, which includes the Bulletin. Send in before April 1st, 1948.

You can either send in your dues to Kerr's Dahlia Gardens, or to the Secretary, Dr. Paul Morgan, 17 Woodward, Battle Creek, Mich.

For advertising rates in the Bulletin write Prof. C. E. Wildon, East Lansing, Michigan.

To any one sending their subscription dues to Kerr's Dahlia Gardens, before April 1st, 1948, will receive one root of Ogden Reid, free.

#### -- 1948 --

# To Our Many Friends and Gustomers:

This small book comes to you with our best wishes and expression of appreciation for the many fine orders last season. Most of all we really appreciate the fine letters of satisfaction of our stock. We will endeavor to furnish even better roots and green plants this coming season. Every effort has been made to grow and sell only clean, free-from-disease stock. Your success depends largely on the quality of roots or plants you receive. So, be assured we earnestly desire that you get the best.

Very Sincerely,

Laurence R. Kerr



We Are Members of
THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY
THE OHIO STATE DAHLIA SOCIETY
THE CENTRAL STATES DAHLIA SOCIETY
THE BATTLE CREEK DAHLIA SOCIETY

#### Location of Our Gardens

From the center of the city of Battle Creek, go west on West Michigan Ave., (the main street) until you come to Washington Street; turn north, Pass Percy Jones Hospital and the Battle Creek Sanitarium, and go about five blocks, to 392 North Washington.

Telephone 4041

We invite you all to visit our gardens at any time, more especially when in bloom.

#### KERR DAHLIA GARDENS

392 North Washington

Battle Creek, Michigan

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#### **General Description of Varieties**

of the

#### WORLD'S BEST PRIZE-WINNING

# **DAHLIAS**

We specialize in dahlias that have a record of WINNING PRIZES; that are known to be vigorous, and have been thoroughly tested out in many sections of the United States.

Nearly every one of our dahlias has received a Certificate of Merit from the Trial Grounds at Storrs, Conn., East Lansing, Mich., Cincinnati, Ohio, or Fairmont, W. Va. That means a rating of at least 85 per cent.

#### **Healthy Dahlias**

It is our policy—and we strictly adhere to it—that NO dahlia will grow in our gardens that shows ANY disease what-soever. If a dahlia cost us a nice sum of money, it matters not if it is NOT healthy, it is dug up and burned at once. We never purchase any stock from a dahlia raiser if we know he allows diseased dahlias to grow in his gardens.

"We grow a number of the very best And let, who will, raise all the rest."

#### **Abbreviations**

FD—Formal Decorative		ID—Infor	nal Decorative
SCSemi-Cactus	IC—Incurved	Cactus	C—Cactus

- ALICE MAY (I. D.), "Australia," 1939. Bloom 12x8. This pure waxy white flower is rightly called a "White Lord of Autumn." This tremendous bloom is beautifully formed, the petals folding all the way back to the stem. One flower of Alice May had three blue ribbons at the 1940 Cleveland Show—one ribbon for the best flowers in its class, one ribbon for the largest flower in the show, and the other ribbon for the most perfect bloom in the show. One of the greatest dahlias to date.

  Root \$1.50, Plant

.75

.95

BEDFORD BEAUTY IC (Frank) 1946. A distinctive and beautiful incurved cactus of delicate coloring. Color is a light amaranth pink with white around the center. Petals are evenly and narrowly rolled from base to tip. Size 6x3. Achievement Medal winner in 1943. On Eastern Honor Roll	5
BESS SMITH (I. D.), "Anderson," 1943. Bloom 10x6, bush 5 ft. Pure white. Its petals are wavy. Stems 15 inches long, and very strong, holding flowers on side. It is an excellent keeper when cut. Won the Derrill W. Hart Gold Medal in 1941. On two Honor Rolls. Considered by many the best white. Root \$1.50, Plant .7	5
dark oxblood red, aptly described by a garden visitor as "the big misty black dahlia." A strong grower and free bloomer. Stems are long and strong holding the flower well above the plant. Blooms have a lot of substance and keep well after cutting. Size 11x5.  Root \$4.50, Plant 1.7	5
BLUE MOON (I. D.), "Johnson," 1941. Bloom 12x5. Lavender shading to lilac-purple at base. Strong stems. Heavy foliage. Another mammoth size dahlia. Achievement Medal and Honor RollRoot \$1.50, Plant .7	5
BLUE RIVER (F. D.), "Salem Dahlia Gardens." Bloom 11½x5, bush 4 ft. A blue French violet, the nearest to a blue dahlia that we have ever seen. It never fails to grow. It has won many przes. Fine stemsRoot .7	5
CALIFORNIA IDOL (I. D.), "Success," 1935. Bloom 12x7, bush 5 ft. This giant yellow has a coast-to-coast record as a winner. At Boston it won the Achievement Medal as Best Undisseminated Dahlia. It is a fine grower with a deep flower of clear, glistening yellow, a true pastel shade. On Honor Roll. It can easily win as largest or best flower	0
CARL G. DAHL (I. D.), "Hillcrest," 1937. Bloom 13x6, bush 5½ ft. Graceful, although of tremendous size of rather loose or open formation. Color, apricot buff shaded old rose on reverse of petals. Won the award as Best Bloom in the show at New York, 1937, and the popular vote in the New York Botanical Gardens, 1936. Has won many times as largest in the show	5
CHEROKEE BRAVE (I. D.), "Dahliadel," 1939. Bloom 11x6, bush 5½ ft. Blooms are a rich oxblood red that hold their color well in the sun. Has done exceptionally well throughout the country, and in the Mid-West is considered by many the outstanding red. The blooms can be grown to extra large size. Considered one of the best introductions. Bush growth strong and foliage heavy. EXCELLENT	
CLASS (F. D.), "Salem," 1941. Bloom 12x6, bush 3½ ft. One of the largest sulphur yellow formal decorative dahlias to date. Grown up to 15 inches, petals fall back toward stem when fully out. Strong, straight stems hold flowers directly on top. Bush ruggedRoot 1.0	0
CLARIAM KELTON (I. D.) (Wolbert-Rocky River) Fairly large blooms of flame red blended with yellow and with yellow reverse. Very showy in the garden and a consistent winner at shows. Plants are tall, open growers, producing an abundance of flowers on long, strong stems. Several have written that this was one of the pleasant surprises of the 1945 introductions. Size 9x4	

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COL. LITTLE (Ambrose) I. D. or S. C., 1946. Classified in the East by Mr. Dudley as Informal and as a Semi-Cactus in the West by Col. Eddy. It will probably vary somewhat in form in different soils. Color: A brilliant fiery red on a yellow base. Size 10 to 11 by 5 to 6 inches. An Honor Roll Dahlia that has won many awards	CLARA HOOK (St. C.) "Wolbert-Wind," 1947. Bloom 11x5, bush 6 ft. The color is golden-yellow, lightly suffused with apricot on the outer petals. Winner of Derrill W. Hart Medal. Three Certificates of Merit, two Achievement Medals and on ALL three Honor Rolls. Won a number of blue ribbons. A free bloomer.  Root \$10.00, Plant	3.50
ing to orange and peach pink, with a heavy sheen on the petals. Petals curl completely back to stem. Centers are high, pointed and always perfect. Blooms early to late. Two achievement Medals. On leading Honor Rolls. Prof. C. M. Brown, a veteran dahlia judge, says: "Columbia at East Liverpool was the finest all-round large flower it has ever been my privilege to see. Never before have I seen such depth."Root 2.00  COMMANDO (F. D.), "Peck," 1943. Bloom 12x5, bush 4½ ft. Color, a true phlox purple, really a clear shade of lavender. Stems very long and stiff, holds the bloom at proper angle. Extra fine bush and foliage. Achievement Medal. The finest lavender we have ever seen growing	in the East by Mr. Dudley as Informal and as a Semi-Cactus in the West by Col. Eddy. It will probably vary somewhat in form in different soils. Color: A brilliant fiery red on a yellow base. Size 10 to 11 by 5 to 6 inches. An Honor Roll Dahlia that has won many	2.00
4½ ft. Color, a true phlox purple, really a clear shade of lavender. Stems very long and stiff, holds the bloom at proper angle. Extra fine bush and foliage. Achievement Medal. The finest lavender we have ever seen growing	16 x 8 to 10, bush 5½ ft. Deep gold in center, shading to orange and peach pink, with a heavy sheen on the petals. Petals curl completely back to stem. Centers are high, pointed and always perfect. Blooms early to late. Two achievement Medals. On leading Honor Rolls. Prof. C. M. Brown, a veteran dahlia judge, says: "Columbia at East Liverpool was the finest all-round large flower it has ever been my privilege to	2.00
A beautiful shade of coral pink, shading to yellow at centers. Very early and profuse bloomer. Open grower. Size 8x4	$4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. Color, a true phlox purple, really a clear shade of lavender. Stems very long and stiff, holds the bloom at proper angle. Extra fine bush and foliage. Achievement Medal. The finest lavender we have ever seen	.75
ft. A medium sized variety of true pink. This fine florist's flower is also regarded as a challenger for honors held so long by Jersey's Beauty on the show tables. A very good keeper. Stems are cane-like and hold flowers facing the side. Excellent. On Honor Roll	A beautiful shade of coral pink, shading to yellow at centers. Very early and profuse bloomer. Open	1.50
best of long, stiff stems. One of the best to come from Australia. It stands very high in the show room  DEAN SHURTLEFF (S. C.), "Rockley," 1942. Bloom 10x6, bush 4½ ft. Semi-Cactus, very large brilliant Crimson shading to an Oxblood Center. Stems are straight and stiff as steel—never droops even in bud—9 to 13 inches to first leaf bracket. The finest I had in my 1942 garden. Also winner of Achievement Medal—Certificate of Merit and mentioned on three Honor Rolls	ft. A medium sized variety of true pink. This fine f!orist's flower is also regarded as a challenger for honors held so long by Jersey's Beauty on the show tables. A very good keeper. Stems are cane-like and hold flowers facing the side. Excellent. On Honor	1.00
straight and stiff as steel—never droops even in bud— 9 to 13 inches to first leaf bracket. The finest I had in my 1942 garden. Also winner of Achievement Medal—Certificate of Merit and mentioned on three Honor Rolls	best of long, stiff stems. One of the best to come from Australia. It stands very high in the show	.60
Color, tyrian rose. Has excellent, long, strong stems. Several blooms were shipped 800 miles, and were perfect after the fourth day. Won the much coveted Leonard Barron trophy at New York. The front page cover of the December, 1943, issue of the Flower Grower carried its picture. It is really a large "ball"	straight and stiff as steel—never droops even in bud— 9 to 13 inches to first leaf bracket. The finest I had in my 1942 garden. Also winner of Achievement Medal—Certificate of Merit and mentioned on three	1.00
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*DULCINEA (C.) A fine all-around dahlia of rare beauty of form and color. The medium sized flowers are an attractive cardinal red and carried in great profusion on the best of stems. A most consistent winner at shows, a fine garden sort and excellent for the cut-flower trade. We can recommend this highly for any garden. Size 7x4.	.75
<b>ELODIE K</b> (S. C.) "Koenig," 1947. Bloom 5x3, bush 5½ ft. The color is a beautiful shrimp pink, with a yellowish cast at the center. Extra long strong stems carries the flower facing. The lacinated petals adds a great deal to its beauty. It scored over 85 in two trial grounds. One extra well known grower and judge, said "It is the most BEAUTIFUL dahlia I have EVER SEEN". The originator says he will stake his reputation on this dahlia; he can well afford to. It won the blue ribbon in nearly every place shown this season. On two Honor Rolls. Early and extra good bloomer. Root \$7.50, Plant	2.50
<b>ENCHANTRESS</b> —(S. C.) Color, deep gold overlaid rose. Good long, strong stem which holds the giant blooms high out of plant. Very prolific bloomer. Won many awards	1.00
ESSIE SMITH (S. C.), "Smith," 1945. Bloom 13x10; bush 5 ft. Color, a beautiful amaranth pink. Won two Achievement Medals; also won several blue ribbons as largest, best and most perfect bloom. A prominent dahlia judge said: "It was a sensation in every show it was exhibited in 1944." Strong cane-like stems. On ALL Honor Rolls	1.25
FIRE BALL (I. D.), "Bissell." Bloom 8x4, bush 5 ft. Color, a brilliant scarlet, which does not burn or fade. An excellent red. The foliage is heavy and insect resisting	.85
FIVE STAR GENERAL (F. D.), "Ramage-Ruschmohr," 1946. Bloom, 12x5; bush, 6 ft. Color, Amaranth pink, blushing into a tyrian pink and then going into a maize yellow toward the center. Very sturdy plant. Excellent foliage. Highest scoring dahlia in the Mid-West Trial Grounds in 1945, with a score of 86. On ALL three Honor Rolls. This is one of the VERY BEST. Root \$4.50, Plant	2.00
FREDA GEORGE (I. D.), "Australia," 1937. Bloom 9x5, bush 5 ft. This imported Informal Decorative from Australia reminds us of Opal in color, as it is a sulphury white tipped and suffused violet rose. It has strong erect stems, with well-proportioned, healthy foliage. A very attractive dahlia in the pastel shades. Honor Roll. Extra good	.75
FRIEDA GAYLORD (Gaylord-Ballay, 1946). I. D. Bloom 12x7, Bush 5½ ft. Remarkable in size and vigor A seedling of San Francisco but better with more petals and more color as it is a rosy pink	2.50
GLAMOUR (1. D.), "Salem Dahlia Gardens," 1939. Bloom 12x8, bush 5½ ft. An immense true purple with each petal deeply edged amaranth pink. As the bloom develops the petals fall back to the stem, giving it great depth. It has a perfectly straight and exceedingly stiff stem. Winner of the Achievement Medal. It won eleven firsts as largest bloom in the shows in the autumn of 1939	1.25

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GEN. JOHN J. PERSHING (I. F., Ward-Ruschmohr), 1945, Bloom 12x9, Bush 5½ ft. A sport of the well known dahlia Virginia Rute. Color coral and jasper red with a chrome flush. It plays between Informal Decorative and Semi-Cactus in form. A rugged grower, and well worth while, winning many prizes and the highest score at Storrs in 1944	2.00
GREATER GLORY (S. C.) (Salem), A very large semi- cactus of rose pink, shading lighter. Excellent forma- tion and a consistent winner at strong shows. Tall grower. Size 9½x4½	.75
<b>HASLEROVA</b> (F. D.) Won first as most outstanding bicolor. Most unusual in coloring, being a delicate shade of cream, freckled royal purple. This is a foreign introduction. It is a prolific bloomerRoot	.75
HILLSIDE SUNSET (I. D.), "Bissell," 1939. Bloom 12x7, bush 5 ft. The color is gold and bronze with each petal edged with rose red, none of the edging extending over on to the face of the petal. Awarded a Certificate of Merit, from East Lansing and Fairmont, W. Va., also the Achievement Medal at Cleveland, and A. D. S. Medal for the largest and best bloom. Long, stiff stems. Another giant	.75
HOOSIER MARVEL (S. C.), "Wolfe," 1945. Bloom 14x7, bush 5½ ft. Color, a deep golden yellow; very much the same color as Lord of Autumn. Fine stem and center. It was by far the largest flower at East Lansing, where it won a Certificate of Merit. Good substance. Excellent root maker. Grand bush growth. On Honor Roll. It will be a great contender for the largest flower in show	1.50
HUNT'S VELVET WONDER (I. D.), "Hunt-Burnett Bros.," 1935. Bloom 10x6, bush 5½ ft. This variety was given an American Home Achievement Medal in New York and won in Camden as the best seedling, arousing much interest. The flowers of deep rosy magenta blending into a true purple, are well proportioned with a large, dark green foliage	.75
INCANDESCENT (I. D.), "Parrella," 1937. Bloom 11x5, bush 5½ ft. Color, rich rosy buff suffused yellow light old rose. Center, rich old rose, paling to light buff on outside of petals. High centered, well formed flowers. Blooms in great profusion. The huge blooms are held facing sideways on cane-like stems, well above the foliage	.75
INDIAN GIANT (I. D.), "Emmons," 1943. Bloom 12x6, bush 4 ft. Color, rich autumn; underlay of petals Indian yellow, overcast carmine. Center petals darker. Never was there more beautiful foliage on a dahlia. Stems very long, holding the mammoth blooms facing far beyond the plant. In the trial grounds at East Lansing, there were three blooms that measured 13½ inches. We have NEVER seen an open center. Good root maker. Won first wherever shown. Certifcate of Merit. Won two Honor Rolls. Just a natural GIANT	1.00
INDIAN SUMMER (S. C.), "Goetzger," 1942. Bloom 10x5, Bush 5 ft. Golden yellow with soft orange suffusion. The bush is tall and rugged, with excellent foliage. Stems long, good for cutting. On Futurity and Honor Roll. Achievement Medal winner and certified	.75
at O.V.D.A. It is a beautyRoot	.13

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ft. Immense blooms, deep and full of glistening bronze buff. The stems are long and stiff and straight. No dahlia has given more universal satisfaction than Jane Cowl, and no other has won so many prizes since it was introduced in 1928	.50
JANE LAUSCHE (S. C., Rocky River), 1945. A new color combination in a large dahlia. Rosy mauve with about one-third of each petal tipped white. Just about all the superlatives in the dictionary have been used to describe it. Winner of several "largest bloom" and "most perfect bloom" awards in it's first season. The plants are open, fast growers and produce blooms early, and in profusion until frost. A standout in the semicactus bi-color class. A Giant	1.75
JEAN KERR (F. D.) (Burpee) A medium sized white which is unsurpassed as a cut-flower of the formal type. Also very useful for exhibition. A very free bloomer. Size 5x3.	.50
JEAN TRIMBEE (S. C.), "Trimbee." Bloom 10x5, bush 5 ft. Massive, yet artistic, with long, revolute petals that curl and twist. The color is a beautiful petunia violet, making it popular as an exhibition dahlia. A tall, vigorous grower with long, erect stemsRoot	1.25
JERSEYS BEAUTY (F. D.) A perfect bloom of erosion pink. The best pink dahlia to date	.60
KATIE-K (I. D.), "Koenig," 1938. Bloom 11x6, bush 5½ ft. Color is a deep rose pink, with white veins in the petal that lighten the flower considerably. Scored a certificate of merit at both Storr's and East Lansing. was on all the 1938 Honor Rolls. It is a giantRoot	1.00
KING PETER (F. D.), "Brown." Bloom 8x4, bush 5 ft. White tipped lavender. This is one of the most beautiful and delicately blended colored dahlias we have ever grown. Fine stems. Flower facing you. It was a great winner in the New York flower show in 1944. Won five blue ribbons	.75
KIRSTEN FLAGSTAD (1. D.), "Brown-Wind," 1945. Bloom 12x5, bush 5 ft. Color, rich gold suffused apricot; a golden autumn. Excellent long stems. Early and profuse bloomer. Winner of "the most perfect large bloom" at East Liverpool in 1943. Won three certificates of Merit. On ALL Honor Rolls. Root \$2.00, Plant	1.00
LAKESIDE BEAUTY (F. D.) Bloom 8x4. A very fine pearl pink extra long stemmed cut-flower. Early to bloom and a flower of great substance. Healthy, vigorous and sure to please	2.00
L. C. K. (S. C.) "Koenig," 1945. A beautiful Yellow-Autumn, straight cactus, averaging 5 inches, or long stems, that will give you an average of 50 blooms per plant each season. Certificate winner at both Storr's and East Lansing, under the name of Annabelle. Winner of Flower Grower award 1944 Ads Show, and we consider it the finest medium dahlia in existence. Plant	1.00
tibice (I. D.), "Kemp," 1943. Bloom 13x8, bush 6½ ft. A delicate cream yellow, shading to lemon yellow toward the center. It won the highest award given a seedling dahlia, at New York in 1942. It is an exceedingly fine grower. The long, strong stems hold the giant blooms high out of the foliage	1.25

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DAHLIAS

LOIS WALCHER (F. D.) (Walcher) This sensational winner as a seedling, continued its fine record during the past season. We regard this as one of the finest	
true bi-colors on the market. Flowers are of medium size, true pansy purple, evenly tipped a clear white. We recommend this one be given good cultural methods for best results. Plants are low to medium in height, with dark green foliage. Stems are long and unbending. Size 7x4	.75
LORD OF AUTUMN (I. D.), "Almy." Bush 4½ ft. The color is a deep golden yellow. The flowers grow to an enormous size and, without forcing, we had blooms the past season that measured over 13 inches across and nearly 9 inches in depth on long, stiff stems that held the flowers high above the foliage. The formation is wonderful, as the long petals recurve until the stem is hidden from view for 6 or 8 inches. This dahlia is a GIANT. It never fades or burns.	.75
LYNN FONTANNE (I. D.), "Parrella," 1941. Bloom 11 x7, bush 5½ ft. Color, a scarlet or peach red. Wonderful strong stems. Won at two large shows and measured 13x9 at World's Fair A. D. S. Show, 1941. On two Honor Rolls. Root \$1.25, Plant	.75
LUCKY (St. C., Schutte). A bright red cactus. Ideal for cut-flower work or exhibition. Blooms are held facing on stiff wiry stems. Starts blooming very early and continues to produce freely throughout the season.	1.00
MAFFIE (S. C.), "Johnson," 1940. Bloom 13x8, bush 6 ft. Called the sensation of the season. Color intense bright red. A strong growing plant with insect resistant foliage. It won several blue ribbons as the largest and best flower in the 1939 shows, also Achievement Medal, and is on the House Beautiful Honor Roll of 1940. A MONSTOR	.75
AME. C. JUSSIANT (I. C.), "Nagels." Bloom 8x4, bush 4 ft. Soft violet inclined to lavender. The best Incurved Cactus in its color. A popular lavender cut flower for the florists, and also fine for exhibiting. Early and prolific	
MARY TAYLOR (C.), "Taylor," 1940. Bloom 8x4. Color, grenadine pink with lemon-yellow center and flushed cream. This dahlia was the most outstanding at Storrs in 1939. Substance excellent, making it one of the best cut flowers. Fine stems. Root \$1.00, Plant	.50
MICHAEL BLACK (I. D.) "Phillips-Oakleigh," 1947. Bloom 12x6, bush 5½ ft. Color is a velvety Reddish Purple, that does not fade. Strong stems which hold the blooms in an upright facing position at just the right angle. A good root maker. Achievement Medal; two Certificates of Merit, and on two Honor Rolls.	2.50
MICHIGAN WHITE (S. C.), "Keiser." Bloom 7x4, bush 5 ft. The most prolific blooming cut flower white to date. As many as 18 to 25 opening at one time have been produced on one bush. Will bloom from July until frost, continuously shooting out long stems by the dozen. Certified at Storrs and East Lansing. Excellent root maker. No better white cut flower.	,,
Root \$1.50, Plant	.75

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MILTON J. CROSS (I. D.), "Johnson," 1936. Bloom 11x7, bush 6 ft. Center of flower is a clear light lemon yellow shaded rose and coral on outer petals. Won three Achievement Medals. Not only large, but deep, and of a pleasing clean color	
MISS SAN DIEGO (I. C.), "Comstock," 1946. Bloom, 9x7; bush, 4 ft. Color, lemon yellow, outer half of bloom tyrian pink with thread-like markings of center florets tyrian pink. Extra long, straight stems. Won A.D.S. Achievement Medal at Inglewood, California, in 1944. On ALL Honor Rolls. One of the very best at East Lansing Trial Grounds. In fact, it is one of the finest incurved cactus we have seen for years.  Root \$4.00, Plant	2.00
MRS. C. D. ANDERSON (Ball). A mammoth purple- quilled ball dahlia with a silver sheen that keeps for days in the show room. Flower almost round. An early and very prolific bloomer. No better ball dahliaRoot	.35
MRS. E. J. (St. C., Rocky River), 1946. A true type straight cactus of bright Tyrian pink. Centers distinctly white, and tips of the petals are very lightly tipped white. Petals are extremely firm and the flower is a very good keeper both on the plant and after cutting. Plant of medium height with strong laterals and stems which never bend. Size 6x3. Winner of three Certificates of Merit at trial grounds in 1945, with scores of 85, 85.3, and 85.8, for one of the highest average scores of the year. On Hnor Roll	1.50
MONARCH OF THE EAST (I. D.), "Almy," 1938. Bloom 12x5, bush 4½ ft. Giant flowers of mustard yellow with an apricot suffusion. A rampant growing habit. An Honor Roll variety with a Certificate of Merit. Certainly is a giant. A Mr. Lee writes: "We had bloom after bloom on Monarch of the East that measured 12 to 14 inches"	.75
MRS. GEORGE LE BOUTILLIER (I. D.), "Smith Ruschmohr." Bush 4 ft. A giant flower and, in our opinion, an improvement on Murphy's Masterpiece, and a very striking and showy plant in the garden. Color, deep crimson red. The blooms are exceptionally large and are held erect on long, stiff stems, high above the foliage	.60
MRS. I de VER WARNER (F. D.) Bloom 9x5, bush 5 ft. Color, lavender. One of the finest dahlias grown. It is almost disease proof. No better cut flowerRoot	.50
MRS. THOMAS EDISON (I. D.), "Wallace," 1942. Bloom 10x5, bush 5 ft. Color, a bright violet red, almost a deep rose red, with a silver reverse. Strong stems holding flower facing. One of the most beautiful dahlias. Certificate of Merit. On two Honor Rolls.  Root	1.25
MRS. HESTER A. PAPE (I. D.), "Pape-Wind," 1946. Bloom, 12x6; bush, 4½ ft. Color, a reddish-purple; another says it is a pomegranate purple overlaid dahlia purple with a velvet sheen. Won the American Home Achievement Medal, at both Cleveland and Baltimore in 1945, and tied for this medal at East Liverpool. On ALL Honor Rolls. A very sturdy grower. A profuse bloomer. Will be hard to beat in any show.  Root \$4.50, Plant	

DAHLIAS

OAKLEIGH MONARCH (F. D.), "Hook," 1936. Exhibition type, cerise red in color. Blooms 10 to 14 inches. Heavy stem, with canes two or three feet long. Tough foliage and insect resistant. Height, six feet. Medium early bloomer. Blooms keep well when cut. Won a certificate at East LansingRoot \$1.00, Plant	.50
OGDEN REID (1. D.), "Kelley-Parella," 1945. Bloom 13x6, bush 6 ft. Color, spinel pink blended with rose pink and striping of yellow; center deep rose. Winner of several blue ribbons. Blooms held facing on cane-like stems. Vigorous plant growth. One bloom nearly 16 inches. On Honor Roll. Root, \$2.25, Plant	1.00
PARTNER (I. D.), "Robens-Dozier," 1946. Bloom 12x10, bush 4½ ft. Color, Peach buff with a trace of cameo. Has the very best of long stiff stems. This dahlia won five first and two special ribbons. Has been grown to nearly 13 inches. It is a real beauty and a GIANT. On Honor Roll.	1.25
PINK GIANT (I. D.), "Holland," 1939. Bloom 10x6. Color, a vivid rose. Strong stem holds flower erect. It has been a great winner wherever shown. It won the Challenge Cup in Holland in 1939, which is their most coveted prize. On four Honor Rolls Root \$1.00, Plant	.50
PINK MUM (I. C.) (Grohall-Northbrook) A bright pink cactus with the shaggy appearance of a chrysanthemum as the petals curl and twist. Long stems and good keeping qualities make this a good cut flower as well as one for exhibition. Size 8x4½.  Root \$3.00, Plant	1.25
PREMIER'S MAJESTIC (I. D.), "Swezey," 1938. Bloom 10x4, bush 5 ft. An informal decorative of a beautiful new color combination difficult to describe—salmon, gold and mulberry. A robust grower. Profuse bloomer of large, deep exhibition flowers. Stems cane-like. Foliage hard and insect resistant. This is the only dahlia that was a certificate winner at five Trial Gardens; this alone says it is one of the A-1'sRoot	.75
PREMIER'S WINSOME (I. D.), "Swezey," 1939. Blooms 11x6, bush 5 ft. Described by those who grew it as one of the best of the dahlias—nice form, substance, and excellent plant growth. Color, a beautiful mallow pink. Certified East Lansing, 1938	1.25
PURPLE MIST (F. D.), "Emmons," 1937. Bloom 10x5, bush 5 ft. A beautiful pure deep purple, tending to a shade of burgundy. The whole flower is covered with a bronze sheen. Extra long, stiff stems, holding the flower far beyond the foliage. It won a Certificate of Merit at the East Lansing Trial Gardens in 1935; also the American Home Achievement Medal. It was on three Honor Rolls. It is a prolific bloomer. A splendid cut flower.	.75
QUEEN CITY (F. D.), "Peck," 1936. A formal commercial type, of a scarlet pink color; excellent stem on long upright branches, starting from near ground; height of plant, 3 to 4 feet; a very early and continuous bloomer. American Home Achievement Medal. A remarkable cut flower varietyRoot \$1.00, Plant	.60

Page Twelve

KERR

RED CLOUD (I. D.), "Emmons," 1940. Bloom 11x5, bush 6 ft. A rich brilliant crimson red, highlighted with flame. Reverse of petals rosy purple over silver. The ever-full center shows the purple reverse. The large blooms are held erect on very long, strong stems, facing. Naturally a tall robust grower. It has the best of substance and does not fade. Scored 85.5 E. at East Lansing (Michigan) Trial Grounds in 1939. We have NEVER had an open center, nor a bloom that hung its head	1.00
RAY SMITH S. C. (Max O. Scheffel), 1946. Semi-Cactus, lavender with white tips. Bush 5½ to 6 ft. Bloom 10x6 to 11x7 in. One of the cleanest growers, with straight, stiff stems and finest of foliage. Perfect centers, tight to the last. Good keeper. Twice, in 1944 and 1945, it won in the "Ray Smith Memorial Court of Honor" in Shows of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey; both times awarded American Dahlia Society Silver Medal Certificates. Also won a First in "Open to All" S. C. class at New York Show in 1944. Plant	1.50
RHYTHM (I. C.), "Dahliadel," 1943. Bloom 10x6, bush 5½ ft. Color, cameo pink with soft lemon shadings at base of the petals and center of flower—really a Super Dahlia. Excellent form, very rugged and a good root maker. All who have seen it are enthusiastic. On three Honor Rolls. It is a beauty. Root \$2.00, Plant	1.25
ROBERT L. RIPLEY (I. D.), "Salem," 1937. Rhodamine purple with deep rose pink suffusions throughout the entire bloom. It is immense in size. Ed. J. O'Keeffe, of Cold Spring, N. Y., one of the leading amateur growers of the United States, grew a bloom that measured 16x12. Stems are straight and strong. The bush is vigorous and grows to a height of five feet.	1.25
SARETT'S PINK FLAMINGO (S. C.), "Sarett," 1944. Bloom 10x6, bush 5½ ft. Color, a deep rose pink, shading lighter; yellow blend at base. Bloom has a fine center. Three Home Achievement Medals. Won Marshall Field's Gold Cup at Chicago Dahlia Show. On three Honor Rolls. One of the best	1.50
<b>SATAN</b> (S. C.), "Ballay-Success." Bloom 10x5, bush 6 ft. Color, a bright flaming red with slight touch of gold at center. Horn-like petals which are perfectly rolled and incurved, giving unique form to the giant blooms. Honor Roll. Scored 87 at Storrs	.75
SON OF SATAN (I. C.), "Slocum," 1937. One of the largest and brightest of its type. Intense flame red on excellent stems. Blooms up to 12 inches in diameter. Tall, open bush growth. A sensation in any garden.	.75
SILVER LADY (F. D.), "Hillside," 1940. Bloom 10x6, bush 5 ft. Ivory white, lightly flushed and edged violet rose. Here is one of the most meritorious of the newer dahlias, and one of the most exquisite of all dahlias. It has been a great winner in the show room. A rugged bush. Long, strong stems. Certificate	1.25
snowcrest B. I. C. W. (Dahliadel). A white cactus of very fine form which will add zest to its class at the shows. Blooms are of medium size. Stems are ideal. Also a very free bloomer, producing many specimen blooms throughout the season	.75

DAHLIAS Page Thirteen

SHERWOOD'S PEACH (I. D.) (Sherwood-Ruschmohr). This was the largest of the 1944 introductions in our plantings. Blooms have great depth and are carried facing side on cane-like stems. Plant growth is robust. Not an early bloomer but it is at its best for shows. Color is ocherous buff	. <b>7</b> 5
STEPHEN FOSTER (I. C.), "Salem," 1942. Bloom 12x6, bush 6½ ft. Buff orange and tyrian rase. It certainly is distinctive. Very hardy. It won FOUR Achievement Medals. It won as the best dahlia in the show, besides a large number of blue ribbons. It was on ALL HONOR ROLLS. This was one of the finest in our gardens (1944)	.75
SKYROCKET (St. C.) "Sarett," 1947. Bloom 12x6 bush 5½ ft. A striking scarlet bloom with a gold sheen, holds its color in the sun. Good substance. The stems are 14 to 16 inches, straight, slender and strong. A good root maker, and an early and continuous bloomer. The formation makes it a contender in the Perfect bloom competition. Winner of FOUR Achievement Medals. On ALL Honor Rolls.	3.50
STALIN (I. C.), "Zazo," 1943. A bright, velvety, non-fading red. Blooms eight to nine inches on excellent stems. Keeps well as a cut flower; having exceptional substance. We believe this will endure after many of the other 1943 introductions are forgotten. The plants are strong growers.	.50
TOPS (I. D.), "Dozier," 1942. Bloom 12x7, bush 5 ft. A beautiful clear yellow, very much like California Idol in color. Fine formation. Extra long stems. Won several blue ribbons. Achievement Medal winner at Chicago. On ALL FOUR Honor Rolls. One of the best. A GIANT	1.00
TROJAN (I. D.), "Salem," 1941. Bloom 12x7, bush 5 ft. Crimson red overlaid wax yellow. The petals twist somewhat. One of the giants. Many call it a super dahlia. Achievement Medal	1.00
TOWN TOPIC (F. D.). Large full flowers of purple, tipped white. Sometimes comes all purple. Either way, it's a winner	.85
TOP-FLIGHT (S. C.), "Dozier," 1942. Eleven inch bright blood red of perfect formation, facing just right on extra long, strong stems. Most vigorous grower. Fade-proof in hottest summer on record. Gold Certificate of Merit at 1940 Washington Show. Achievement Medal winner at Boston, Wilmington and Richmond, and runner-up at Baltimore. \$25.00 cash award as best in show at Richmond. On all honor rolls.	.75
<b>THE RANGER</b> (I. C.), "Salem," 1943. Bloom 8x4, bush 7 ft. True purple with white veins running the length of the petals and reverse of pure white, which shows as petals curl. Rugged and prolific. ——Plant	1.00
VICTORY (F. D.), "Ruschmohr." Bloom 10x6, bush 4½ ft. Rose pink suffused gold. A real "knockout" for sheer beauty. Flowers keep well. Stem and bush growth excellent. One of the very best for high-class cut flower trade	

wake ISLAND (I. D.), "Hulin," 1943. Bloom I bush 4½ ft. Color, velvet red with violet on the verse. Good, stiff stems. Rugged grower. Won a	re- arge	
whire of blue ribbons, and Sunset Medal	942. mon foot rich iker. lolls.	
WINDLASSIE (I. D.) "Rocky River", 1947. One whitest white dahlias we know. Petals are over with a glistening sheen. When fully developed, is one of the most ball-shaped flowers in this In spite of its ball-shape it does not bruise exwhen packed to take to show. It is an open grow WINDLASSIE scored Certificates of Merit at Stand Baltimore and was on all Honor RollsP	rlaid this list. asily wer. torrs	
WM. R. SHINKFIELD (I. D.), "Australia," 1942. Bl 12x5, bush 5½ ft. A large exhibition dahlia of Merit. A strong growing variety. Excellent sto The color is a rich gold. Twisting petals show the pereverse. This flower won as most perfect and large the Jackson Dahlia Show in 1944.  Root \$1.50, P.	real ems. each gest	
WORLD'S EVENT (I. D.), "Dixie," 1944. Bloom 1 bush 5½ ft. Color, amaranth pink, flushed purple. Have very heavy centers. Has TWO cercates of Merit and is on all THREE Honor Rolls	1 x8, with tifi-	
YOUR LUCKY STAR (C.), "American," 1939. Bt 12x7, bush 5 ft. Amaranth pink with white cer the color immediately demands admiration. The mation is also striking, the regularly arranged que petals form a very nice straight cactus. The stems ideal and hold the huge flower in perfect poise. Honor Roll	nter, for- illed are On	1
ZENITH (Semi-C.) Amaranthcoloured with mager tipped petals. This variety is still much in demo	and.	
AA: .:		
Miniature Dahlias		
BABY ROYAL (S. C.) A Gold Medal Miniature of England and one of the most outstanding prize of ners so far introduced in this class, always wind the blue ribbon wherever exhibited. It is a beau little flower of salmon-pink and apricot with shading	win- ning ti <mark>ful</mark>	
BISHOP OF tLANDAFF, "England." Bloom 3x1 1/2, to 4 ft. This is an unusual and attractive flower, per being bright scarlet with a center of deep gare. Foliage is lacy of a reddish bronze color. Wonder for landscape effects and home arrangements. In popular as a cut flower.	etals net. erful Very	
CARLA (Dahliadel 83C, 1934) Color is a buff, hed shaded old rose and suffused violet rose, a rich of trast to the dark green foliage. Ideal in the gard and for arrangements.	don- rden	
DAHLIAS Pag	je F	ifteen

# Miniature Dahlias

(Continued)

FAIRY (Miniature F. D.), "Bond," 1934. This dainty little dahlia is best described as a miniature Jersey's	
Beauty, it having the same lovely shade of pink with a slight suffusion of mauve. Perfect decorative, 2½ to 3 inches in diameter, with perfect stemsRoot	.40
FUSCHIA GEM (Lakeside 86M), M FD, Bloom 4½x3, Bush 4 ft. Beautiful bright amaranth purple. Extremely prolific and graceful. Although a Miniature Decorative it really has pointed petals. Won the Derrill Hart Memorial Award scoring in three Trial Grounds. Fine grower with strong erect stems.	
Plant	1.50
LITTLE DIAMOND (S. C.), "Holland," 1939. Bloom 3½x2, bush 2½ ft. Color, violet rose with sulphur yellow at center. The most beautiful foreign miniature we have seen. Do not miss this one	.50
MARKET JEWEL (Min. S. C.), "Holland." Bloom 4x3, bush 3 ft. A beautiful shade of red. One of the very best. A profuse bloomer. Great in the show room. Root	.75
RICHARD TWYFORD (S. C.), "Twyford," 1939. Bloom 3x2, bush 3 ft. A warm, lively orange. Extra long, wiry stems that hold the flowers far out of the foliage. A very profuse bloomer. Sometimes as many as twenty-five blooms out at once. It is one of the best	
for flower arrangements. It should be in every garden. Root	.75
ROYALTY (Australia). Finest new lavender I have seen. Blooms 2 to 3 inches, held on fine stems. Prolific bloomer and good branches. Bush 2 to 3 feet high. Root	.75
SPRINGHILL ROSE (F. D.), "Edison," 1942. A beautiful rose red, 2 to 3 inch blooms held on long stiff stems and a prolific bloomer	.50
snowsprite (Min. S. C.), "Dahliadel." Bloom 3½x2, bush 3 ft. This glistening snow-white variety is unquestionably one of the best Miniatures grown. Blooms of fine constant form, held boldly above the foliage in marked profusion	.50
SYLVIA (Lakeside F. D.). A winner! The most free-flowering garnet red miniature in commerce. Ideal for cutting. Won wherever shownRoot	
TARGET (1. D.), "Heaphy," 1943. One of the finest orange shades and blooms, average 2 to 3 inches. Strong bush, free bloomer and long straight stiff stems.	.75
WHITE FAWN (Dixie, 1942), (F. D.) Waxy white, 3 inch bloom. Excellent substance. An extremely abundant bloomer. One of the best cut flowers. Dark glossy foliage on low compact bush. On three honor rolls. Certificates of merit at Storrs and Ohio	.50

### Pom Pom Dahlias

The tiny little miniature ball dahlias, perfect in form, and not exceeding two inches in diameter. The bouquet dahlia which is growing in popularity daily.

ACHILLES—Flesh color to lavender\$	.35
ANNA VON SCHWERIN—Delicate shell pink	.40
CLOVER—White edged soft pink. One of the smallest	.75
JOE FETTE—Pure white. Early	.35
LEMON DROP—Yellow. Extra good	.35
MARY MUNN—A fine lavender	.40
MORNING MIST—White and lavender	.40
JOHNNIE PEPPIN—The most perfect dark crimson	.40
ROSE WILMOUTH—Fine rosy La France pink	.40
SHERRY—Dark plum	.40
PRIDE—Very dark red	.40
YELLOW GEM—Fine deep yellow	.40

#### Dahlia Plants

Each year our own plantings consist of over fifty per cent plants. We have found that if plants are started and grown properly, they will produce as good, if not better, results than roots.

Our way of shipping plants is slightly more expensive than some methods. Hardened plants are shipped in wood bands, packed in sturdy boxes, plenty moist to stand travel. We will appreciate being able to ship not less than four plants, per shipment. We positively guarantee safe arrival and will replace any damaged shipment, upon statement from carrier.

Have fun by starting right off with live green plants arown by KERR.

#### NOTICE

The size of the flowers and the height of the plants given in this catalog will vary in different locations. We give the approximate dimensions as they grew this last year in our gardens.

All orders of \$2.50 and above, prepaid; all under \$2.50 add 20c for postage and packing. In case the order is less than \$2.50, and the additional 20c is NOT included, we ship by express.

# Special Offers

No. 1

(Roots)

Collection, 12 unnamed large flowering.

For Only \$2.25

# No. 2 FOUR GREAT PRIZE WINNERS

(Roots)

Cal. Idol, Mrs. I. de Ver Warner, Trojan, Lynn Fontaine. Regular price, \$3.75.

For Only \$2.75

No. 3

#### SEVEN OF THE BEST

(Roots)

King Peter, Kate K., Sherwood Peach, Alice May, Lord of Autumn, Carl Dahl, Incandescent, Commando, Monarch of the East. (Regular price, \$7.25).

For Only \$5.00

No. 4

#### EIGHT STARS FOR BEGINNER

(Roots)

Enchantress, Queen City, Jersey's Beauty, Monarch of the East, Mrs. Le Boutillier, California Idol, Mrs. I. de Ver Warner, Jane Cowl. (Regular price, \$5.95).

For Only \$4.00

No. 5

#### SIX NEW TOP-NOTCHERS

(Plants)

Five Star General, Miss San Diego, Ogden Reid, Mrs. Hester A. Pape, Sarett's Pink Flamingo and Mrs. E. J. (Regular price, \$10.00.)

For Only \$7.50

# Extraordinary Offers

No. 6—Your choice of roots to the amount of \$12.50.

\$2.50 Extra Roots FREE

No. 7—Your choice of roots to the amount of \$15.00.

\$3.25 Extra Roots FREE

No. 8—Your choice of roots and plants, or either, to the amount of \$35.00.
\$8.00 Extra Roots or Plants FREE

No. 9—One plant each of Miss San Diego, Mrs. E. J., Bedford Beauty and Five Star General for only \$6.00.

NOTICE: None of the **Special Offers** on page 19 can be used in the above.

#### MID-WEST TRIAL GROUNDS

If you have a new Dahlia Seedling of merit, we recommend that you send it to the Mid-West Trial Grounds of The American Dahlia Society at Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., Porf. C. E. Wildon, Supt. Write Prof. Wildon for blanks and information.

### Dahlia Seed

Every dahlia grower who grows "seedlings" will tell you his greatest thrill is "watching" the "new" dahlia coming in bloom. Every new dahlia will be different from any other known variety.

Dahlia seed planted in the spring will commence to bloom in August, and continue until frost. It is not unusual to have blooms 10 to 12 inches across.

New seedlings of merit, that have few faults, are readily salable at worthwhile prices.

The dahlia seed we offer is the same high quality that we plant and from which we obtain our outstanding introductions. This seed is grown in the finest location in the United States, where the seasons are the longest, and that is in the extreme Southwest.

There are NO small varieties grown within a radius of several miles. Only the very LARGEST varieties.

If you find that you have a good seedling, please write us about it.

Fifty Dahlia Seed, \$2.75; 100 Dahlia Seed, \$5.00.

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#### Dahlia Culture

**TIME.** The proper time to plant dahlias for exhibition purposes in this latitude is about the first of June. Of course, if one is not depending upon the shows, they can be planted as soon as the frost is over. In this climate we advise a succession of planting from May 10th ot July 1st.

**PREPARING SOIL.** About one week or ten days before planting, spade your garden ten inches deep and leave it in the rough, then broadcast into soil to every 100 square feet or to approximately ten dahlia hills five pounds raw bonemeal mixed with two pounds of sulphate potash which should be raked into the soil thoroughly.

PLANTING. For exhibition flowers, dahlias should be planted at least three feet apart each way, that is, the large varieties, and two feet each way for the small kinds. Dig the holes at least six inches deep. Place the tuber horizontally in the bottom of the hole with the bud an inch or so from the stake. Cover the roots with about two inches of soil. As the plants grow the hole may be filled in by cultivating.

**PLANTING OF GREEN PLANTS.** Set out plants in late afternoon or on a cloudy day, removing pot from plant. Make sure that plant is planted deep enough and if the following day should be hot and sunny, suggest shading plant with a peach basket during the heat of the day. Fill hole gradually with dirt as plant grows.

**STAKING.** Five to six-foot stakes will be required to support tall growing varieties. The stakes should be set in at the time of planting. If you wait until later to drive in the stakes, much damage may be done to the roots of the plants.

**EXHIBITION BLOOMS.** To get large blooms you should disbud your plants. Leave only one stalk growing out of the ground. Let three sets of leaves appear and then pinch out the center or crown of the plant. Branches will appear at the base of each leaf. On these branches there will be three buds. Pinch out the two side buds, allowing the center one to develop. New branches will appear in the form of laterals between the leaves and stalk. Pinch out all these laterals below the remaining bud except the two nearest the main stalk. When your blooms are cut, these two laterals will develop into the next set of blooms.

**DIGGING.** After the first heavy frost, the tops of the plants will blacken and dry. A few days to a week after a frost the tops should be cut off and the clumps dug up. They should be carefully dried off in the sun for a few hours before being stored.

STORAGE. Store the tubers in boxes or barrels in a cool place. The best storage temperature is about 45 degrees Fahrenheit. The storage atmosphere should be moist enough to prevent excess drying of the roots and at the same time not so moist as to encourage mold or storage rots. If you have a very choice clump, wrap it in wax paper, such as comes around bread. You will find this will keep your roots almost perfect. It is just as good as dipping in paraffine.

KERR

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## Kerr Dahlia Gardens

392 N. Washington

Battle Creek, Mich.

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DAHLIAS

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# A Great Curiosity

is the

# Sacred Lily of India

(Amorphophallus Rivieri)

This is a great novelty flower and is curious, interesting and unique.

Planted in the garden when you plant your dahlias, it produces an attractive plant that suggests a small palm—a single stem that is mottled green and white with purple and reddish shadings.

There are three palm-like branches bearing numerous small, lacy leaves. When the top is killed by frost, dig the bulb and store as you do your dahlias.

When this bulb becomes four or five years old, it will throw up a large stalk, in February or March, bearing at the top a very large Calla-shaped bloom wine colored, ten to fourteen inches across, with a spadix that may be eighteen inches to two feet long. When this bulb blooms (it has a rather unpleasant odor) it requires no soil or moisture.

After the bulb once blooms, it continues to do so each year thereafter. Every bulb produces from two to five bulblets each year, besides growing to its normal size.

We never had any kind of a flower that attracted so much attention. Very few people ever saw anything like it.

Last Spring Bulblets, 25c eachsix for	\$1.00
One-year-old Bulbseach	.50
Two-year-old Bulbseach	1.00
Three-year-old Bulbseach	1.50
Four-year-old BulbsOut this	season

#### DAHLIA MAGAZINES

We recommend the following dahlia publications:

AMERICAN DAHLIA BULLETIN 378 Penn Ave., Stearns Park, Freeport, L. I., N. Y.

THE DAHLIA

12147 Harvard Avenue Chicago, Illinois

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# THE DAHLIA ...

EXCEEDS ALL other flowers in the WORLD in variety of colors and formations.